

# Tammany and the Negro.

By JOHN E. BRUCE.

Mr. Croker's organ, The New York Telegraph, seems to regard the stringing up of a Negro to a lamp post in the streets of New York by the mob during the late riots in that city as a very rich joke. The incident seems to have furnished considerable matter for its facetious space writers, who were brutally witty at the expense of this innocent and outraged Negro citizen.

The Tammany police are the real aggressors and the criminals who should be punished for that disgraceful riot. The system of highway robbery introduced into the Tenderloin and other districts of New York City by police captains and their go betweens, by which they exact blood money from the criminal classes in return for immunity from arrest for open violation of the law, is the true cause of the recent riot there and the terrible consequences which followed it.

The New York Democrats of the baser element are not novices at the business of hanging Negroes to lamp posts. They tried their hands at that business during the draft riots in 1863, which have gone into history, and they made themselves infamous by breaking into the Negro orphan asylum and murdering innocent Negro babes in other quarters of the city. Of course the Negro Democracy of New York led by Chief Lee will march the black legions to the polls in November next, and vote them solidly for Bryan and Stevenson. They would not be good and consistent Democrats if they did not lick the hands that smote them.

The delegation of colored men headed by Chief Lee that called on Acting Mayor Guggenheimer to demand that the officers who clubbed innocent colored citizens during the riot, be punished are all of them humorists of a very superior order. Nobody has any faith in the sincerity of these new champions of the race, for the good reasons that they have heretofore had no word to say against the brutal treatment of the Negro by the democratic party in other States, that they have not used their influence (if they have any) in urging the democracy to put something in state and national platforms against lawlessness. So that this recent ebullition of indignation which emanates from these Negro Democrats is a grand stand play and the idea is not of Negro origin.

The Democrats are not in the habit of playing that kind of politics. They do not keep it on top. The significance of this move is obvious and the move itself will prove impotent. No police officers will be punished for clubbing Negroes, but the protest of the Negro Democrats against their brutal assaults upon the race, is on record and will be considered good campaign material by the short-sighted black brethren who are unable to see how very shallow is this whole performance of the smooth and counterfeit presentment of the Hon. Richard Croker.

Tammany Hall is the real criminal because it has made and is making merchandise of its official power and its political influence. Tammany Hall reeking with corruption from head to foot, a stench in the nostrils of decent men, a festering scab on the body of

society, is responsible for all the villainy, all the ruffianism and rowdiness which recently disgraced the second largest city in the world, and caused the statute of Liberty on Bedloe's Island to blush for shame at the depravity and barbarism of its enlightened white men. Can any decent or self-respecting, race-loving Negro so far forget his manhood as to cast his vote for this party? God forbid!

Chairman Hanna's recent speech to the Republicans of Asbury Park, N. J., is worth remembering by all Republicans who want to see President McKinley re-elected. Too much overconfidence will not accomplish that result. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" and the more vigilance all Republicans exercise, the surer the victory which is already expected, but which a foolish indifference to the points of vantage we have already gained may prove disastrous. We want to go into this campaign with the feeling that nothing is sure or certain except death and taxes, and we should speedily get out of the habit of accepting as gospel truth Democratic versions of the disintegration of that party. Tammany Hall is as foxy now as it has always been, and it always gets together with celerity and despatch on election day. The splits, factions and bad feelings said to exist in that party among the leaders who are more or less anxious to attend Mr. Croker's political funeral are part of a deep scheme which is intended to create a feeling of security among Republicans which will of course assist the Democrats in securing the prize.

The Democratic family quarrel will be settled in sixty-five minutes after they have discovered that confiding Republicans have taken them seriously and are sleeping on their guns. Guns do not make good beds and it is best not to sleep on them at all.

Democrats never sleep. People who are hungry for spoils have not time for sleep. We must give our friends the enemy, credit for having a system of organization and a method of doing business with its opponents which is practical, if not always successful. The tactical Democratic fighter takes nothing for granted. He believes in the potency, and value of details, and in the efficiency of bull dog tenacity in a fight for big stakes. He has a penchant for steaks and stakes and when he wins them he enjoys them. The headquarters and blue pencil fighter, who is too tired to take the field and too willing to take and adopt as his own the opinions and estimates of others, as to the result of the battle, has never yet won a battle and never will. The Democrats have reduced campaigning to a positive science. They are real Democrats in the struggle for supremacy, for every man in the party from the highest to the lowest mingles in splendid alliance, each imbued with the one central idea—victory—and to secure this they stop at nothing short of glorious defeat. It is to be hoped that the Republicans in the present campaign will throw off some of their reserve and begin to "play ball" in earnest. The duty of all Republican is to get together immediately. If they will do this Mr. Bryan will be one consecutive week after November 6th trying

to find out whether he was blown up by dynamite or kicked by the nameless long eared animal which is pictured to represent the Democratic party in action.

One of Mr. Lincoln's witticism which will apply to the methods of the democratic party to day, will not be out of place here. The passage occurs in one of his messages after his first inauguration. He said:

"With rebellion thus sugar-coated they have been drugging the public mind of their section for more than thirty years until at length they have brought many good men to a willingness to take up arms against the government."

The public printer excepted to the use of the word "sugar coated" as being undignified! These words express precisely my idea and I am not going to change them. The time will never come when the people won't know exactly what "sugar coated" means. Mr. Lincoln was right. The sugar coated speeches of Mr. Bryan have almost persuaded a number of good Americans to commit political suicide by going against the best and only party which has demonstrated its capacity to govern this country as it ought to be governed.

It is the only party that can honestly be accused of possessing practical knowledge of the science of government.

Democracy cost the South \$5,262,405,553 26. At the close of the war of the Rebellion the debt of the Confederate Government was \$2,345,287,823. With the surrender of the rebel armies every dollar of this war debt was wiped out of existence and it was a dead loss to those who held its securities. No better illustration of democratic incapacity can be furnished than these figures furnish. The democratic party has not learned much since the war of the Rebellion. It has not demonstrated any more ability than it originally possessed. It still believes in repudiation and in juggling with the finances of the country.

It took a good many years to bring the Republican party up to its present standard and a great many millions of money and thousands of lives to make possible the existence of such a party. What has been accomplished cannot with safety to the party nor the honor and good faith of the nation be undone. Great parties are not made in four years nor are they created in Nebraska.

It is a noticeable fact that all the howlers for a change in the Presidential office wear long hair, except those who are short haired and that they are familiar with such works as "Looking Backward," "Progress and Poverty," "The Money of Nations," (which they do not handle). "The Life and Times of W. J. Bryan" and other standard literature more or less diverting. The Imperial Roscoe Conkling once gave utterance to a sentence in replying to a Democratic opponent in the Senate which was as meaty as it was meaningful: "The shallows murmur while the deeps are dumb."

If you will put your ear to the ground you will hear a great deal of murmuring just now of hungry patriots on the other side who are just dying for a chance to save the country from McKinleyism, Trusts, Imperialism and all the other isms in their political vocabulary.

"Understanding the spirit of our institutions" said Lincoln, "to aim at

the elevation of men. I am opposed to whatever tends to degrade them." This is not Democratic doctrine. The democracy believes in elevating black men with a rope and it degrades them by making them political pariahs robbing them of constitutional rights and manhood. Are you with these reformers?  
JOHN E. BRUCE.

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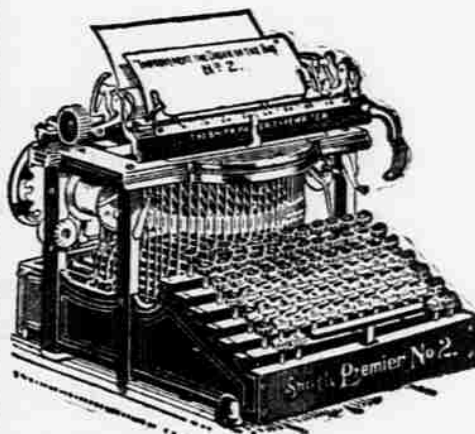
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